

SIERRA CLUB,
January 13, 2022.

Re: Sierra Club's support for the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of our over 3.8 million members and supporters, I write to express our strong support for the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act and urge its immediate passage.

This act will ensure every American has equitable access to the ballot box, protect against election sabotage, prohibit extreme partisan gerrymandering and set limits on the influence of dark money in politics. Protecting and strengthening the freedom to vote for every American is the bedrock principle of our democracy and this Act seeks to do just that.

Last year alone, prompted by the Big Lie, over 400 anti-voter bills were introduced with 19 states enacting more than 30 of those laws, all with the intent of rolling back voting rights for Americans. This year as state legislatures convene, more anti-voter bills have already been prefled with more expected to be introduced and passed in the coming weeks/months. Federal legislation is desperately needed in order to stop these states attacks on voting rights.

The time is now, we must act swiftly to protect the freedom to vote and ensure our democracy is equitably accessible to all Americans, regardless of zip code. We urge our Representatives on behalf of our 3.8 million members and supporters, to not delay and immediately pass the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act.

Sincerely,

DAN CHU,
Acting Executive Director,
Sierra Club.

WOMEN OF COLOR COALITION,
January 13, 2022.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: We write in strong support of the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5746, the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act, which will ensure that voters can safely and freely cast their ballots, protect against election sabotage, stop partisan gerrymandering, and limit the influence of dark money in politics so that billionaires can't buy elections.

Nineteen states enacted 34 new laws that restrict access to the ballot box in 2021 alone and more are under consideration today. Candidates are running for top election offices peddling the Big Lie. States are passing racially-gerrymandered maps that dilute the power of Black and Brown voters. This legislation would fight back against all these attacks and ensure the ability for every American to participate in safe, accessible, and transparent elections.

Our organization fully endorses this bill and urges you to support this legislation.

Sincerely,

RACHEL GREEN, MPA,
Founder & CEO,
Women of Color Coalition.

HONORING ROBYN DOBERNECKER
AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 14, 2022

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Robyn Dobernecker as Iowan of the Week.

An Iowa native, Robyn has had a passion for animals for as long as she could remem-

ber. She got her start as a kennel attendant at age 18, working with animals who needed to be adopted. She rose up through the ranks and became a senior animal control officer, where she humanely took animals off the streets, got them fed and cleaned, and ready for adoption. She decided to broaden her horizons and work at a vet clinic to better understand animal medicine. Through this, she finally got into the Animal Rescue League (ARL) of Iowa, where she is now the intervention coordinator and is responsible for confiscating animals abused at facilities in the state of Iowa. She is also the official point of contact for the rescue efforts for over 500 dogs that were confiscated by a puppy mill breeder, who received one of the harshest penalties for animal welfare violations in USDA history.

After getting three complaints about dog abuse in the summer of 2021, Robyn decided to investigate. What she found was appalling—animals left alone, abused, and neglected. Finding these dogs had little to no water, no food, and inadequate shelter, she immediately called the Iowa attorney general, whose authorization was required to get into the facility and confiscate the animals. With no response, she decided to go to the breeder's hearing, where the USDA and DOJ were prosecuting. Hearing that the breeder's trial will be delayed, Robyn barged into a room of the courthouse full of federal prosecutors for DOJ and said, "My name is Robyn, my job is to help animals get out of abusive homes. But to do what I do, I need your authorization and for you to get on board, and I need a restraining order so I can get ahold of these dogs." This was on a Friday. On that next Monday, DOJ reached out to her and asked if they could work with her to get these dogs out of the facility.

After coordinating with government agencies and other animal rescue organizations, she was able to rescue the first round of dogs on October 13th. Once the breeder officially surrendered on November 1st, Robyn went in with her team and was able to confiscate the rest of the 414 dogs—she got all of them out over the next two days. This difficult feat was catalyzed by Robyn's desire to make a difference for communities. To see those dogs' tails wag for the first time and being able to hug and kiss the puppies once they were all clean made the process of rescuing them worth it. While there is always more work to do to counter animal abuse, we can revel in the admirable work it takes to rescue those who are in harm's way.

I am honored to designate Robyn Dobernecker as Iowan of the Week.

SUPPORTING H.R. 6330, THE NON-MARKET ECONOMY OVERCAPACITY REFORM ACT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 14, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce my introduction of H.R. 6330, the Nonmarket Economy Overcapacity Reform Act.

For too long, the United States has been deferential to foreign governments who undermine American workers and manufacturers

through unfair trade practices, targeted subsidization, and excess production capacity. This playbook involves undercutting American industry, flooding the domestic markets with imports, distorting competition, and driving competition under.

Our trade laws allow American manufacturers to seek relief from the International Trade Commission only after they've sustained material injury from uncompetitive trading practices. The decline in American manufacturing shows these laws to be insufficient. How many dormant American factories could have been saved before unfairly subsidized imports flooded U.S. markets? How much wealth has been shipped overseas, only to come back in the form of goods that put American workers out of a job?

Last year, the United States Trade Representative testified before the Ways and Means Committee on the need for forward-looking trade laws that protect American industry from price dumping, unfair competition, and illegal subsidies. In many cases, we know non-market economies intend to undermine American workers and our nation's industrial base through unfair means—it is their stated policy.

The Nonmarket Economy Overcapacity Reform Act will give the United States the tools we need to protect American jobs from the looming and established threat of global excess capacity. This narrowly tailored bill gives the United States the right to proactively seek antidumping and countervailing duties in demonstrated instances of buildup in excess production capacity. By focusing on non-market economies, this bill seeks to preserve the beneficial and lawful competitive trading relations we have established with our allies and good-faith trading partners around the globe.

Madam Speaker, the United States has a responsibility to protect our Nation's manufacturers from unfair trading practices. When put on a level playing field, I know American workers can outperform anyone in the world—we must support them. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6330, the Nonmarket Economy Overcapacity Reform Act.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MR. JOHN McDONALD

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 14, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of John McDonald, Local 1650 president and emeritus faculty member at Henry Ford College in Dearborn, Michigan. His significant contributions to Henry Ford College, the greater Dearborn community, and beyond are worthy of commendation.

After graduating from Detroit Catholic Central High School, Mr. McDonald attended Henry Ford College and then the University of Michigan—Ann Arbor, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in English. He began teaching 19th century American literature and English composition at the college in 1969. After gaining tenure in 1971, he became involved in Henry Ford Community College American Federation of Teachers' Local 1650 and soon became a trusted leader

among his peers. Under his leadership, Mr. McDonald was the master negotiator and Local 1650 was a force to be reckoned with. They negotiated strong contracts featuring shared governance, community service, wages, post tenure review, distance education, intellectual property, and professional development. His leadership brought recognition to the union on a national level, where Mr. McDonald served as the American Federation of Teachers National Vice President. To celebrate his 40th anniversary as president of Local 1650, his fellow officers dedicated the Library of Labor Studies at Henry Ford College in his honor.

A fixture at Henry Ford College and in Dearborn, Mr. McDonald was an advocate for education and for his community. As he often said, "Henry Ford College is Dearborn's College." He knew that this school opened doors for its students and relished in uplifting all who crossed his path. The ultimate educator, the world was his classroom. Those who knew him know of his tenacity, compassion, and sharp wit.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of John McDonald, we are all thankful for his dedication to education and the labor movement. A trusted friend and confidante of mine and a giant in our community, our thoughts are with his wife, Denise, and his family at this time. We are forever grateful for his lifetime of work and know that his legacy will live on in those who he touched at Henry Ford College.

NASA ENHANCED USE LEASING EXTENSION ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 13, 2022

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letters of support for the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5746.

DEMOCRACY 21,

Washington, DC, January 13, 2022.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: Democracy 21 strongly supports and urges you to vote for the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5746, the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act and for the rule to bring it to the House floor.

The right of every eligible American to vote and have their vote properly counted is the cornerstone of our democracy. This fundamental right and our democracy are at grave risk today.

In 2021, Republican-controlled state legislatures across the country enacted a wave of unprecedented voter suppression and election sabotage laws in the name of "election integrity." More are expected to be enacted in 2022.

The state laws stemmed from the Trump Big Lie that the 2020 presidential election was stolen from him, even though there was not a shred of evidence to support his demagogic claim. Trump's own top government security officials found that the 2020 election "was the most secure in American history."

The Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act would override the state voter suppression laws for federal elections and combat the state election sabotage laws that empower partisan election officials to rig the results of federal races. The Act would also prevent

partisan gerrymandering and provide essential campaign finance reforms.

The Act would protect the right of every eligible American to vote and preserve our democracy.

Democracy 21 strongly urges you to vote for the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act.

Sincerely,

FRED WERTHEIMER,

President.

DÉMOS,

January 13, 2022.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: We write in strong support of the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5746, the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act, which will ensure that voters can safely and freely cast their ballots, protect against election sabotage, stop partisan gerrymandering, and limit the influence of dark money in politics so that billionaires can't buy elections.

Nineteen states enacted 34 new laws that restrict access to the ballot box in 2021 alone and more are under consideration today. Candidates are running for top election offices peddling the Big Lie. States are passing racially gerrymandered maps that dilute the power of Black and Brown voters. This legislation would fight back against all these attacks and ensure the ability for every American to participate in safe, accessible, and transparent elections.

Demos is a think tank that powers the movement for a just, inclusive, multiracial democracy. Demos means "the people" and is the root word of democracy. Our name reminds us that America's power is derived from the diversity of its people, and that we do not have democracy unless all of our people can participate meaningfully in the political process.

The Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act is a major step in the direction of ensuring all Americans can participate in our democracy. Our organization fully endorses this bill and urges you to support this legislation.

Sincerely,

TAIFA SMITH BUTLER,

President, Demos.

PEOPLE'S ACTION,

January 13, 2022.

Contact: Megan Essaheb, Director of Federal Affair.

PEOPLE'S ACTION URGES A YES VOTE ON THE
FREEDOM TO VOTE: JOHN R. LEWIS ACT

People's Action strongly supports the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5746, the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act, which will ensure that voters can safely and freely cast their ballots, protect against election sabotage, stop partisan gerrymandering, and limit the influence of dark money in politics so that billionaires can't buy elections.

Nineteen states enacted 34 new laws that restrict access to the ballot box in 2021 alone and more are under consideration today. Candidates are running for top election offices peddling the Big Lie. States are passing racially-gerrymandered maps that dilute the power of Black and Brown voters. This legislation would fight back against all these attacks and ensure the ability for every American to participate in safe, accessible, and transparent elections.

People's Action fully endorses this bill and urges you to support this legislation.

People's Action is a national network of 40 state and local grassroots power-building organizations united in fighting for justice. We are a multi-racial, multi-generational, working-class coalition working to build the power of poor and working people across rural, suburban, and urban areas to win change through issue campaigns and elections.

PROJECT ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT,

January 13, 2022.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES: I write on behalf of the Project On Government Oversight, in strong support of the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5746, the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act, which will ensure that voters can safely and freely cast their ballots, protect against election sabotage, stop partisan gerrymandering, and limit the influence of dark money in politics. This legislation is necessary to protect the freedom of all Americans to elect their leaders.

POGO is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that investigates and exposes waste, corruption, abuse of power, and when the government fails to serve the public or silences those who report wrongdoing. We champion reforms to achieve a more effective, ethical, and accountable federal government that safeguards constitutional principles.

The freedom to vote is under threat across the country. In 2021 alone, 19 states enacted 34 new laws that restrict access to the ballot box. More are under consideration today. Candidates are running for top election offices spreading dangerous and debunked claims of widespread voter fraud. States are passing racially gerrymandered maps that dilute the power of Black and brown voters. This legislation would fight back against all these attacks and protect the foundational right to participate in safe, accessible, and transparent elections.

Elections allow citizens to choose their leaders—and to vote them out of office if they abuse their power or act corruptly. Undermining Americans' ability to cast their ballots weakens the single best tool we have to hold our government and its leaders accountable. Our elected officials need to stop everything else they are doing and prioritize efforts to preserve our democracy.

The Project On Government Oversight fully endorses the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act and urges you to support this legislation.

Sincerely,

DANIELLE BRIAN,

Executive Director.

STAND UP AMERICA,

New York, NY,

January 13, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: We write in strong support of the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5746, the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act, which will ensure that voters can safely and freely cast their ballots, protect against election sabotage, stop partisan gerrymandering, and limit the influence of dark money in politics so that billionaires can't buy elections.

Nineteen states enacted 34 new laws that restrict access to the ballot box in 2021 alone and more are under consideration today. Candidates are running for top election offices peddling the Big Lie. States are passing racially-gerrymandered maps that dilute the power of Black and Brown voters. This legislation would fight back against all these attacks and ensure the ability for every American to participate in safe, accessible, and transparent elections.

The Stand Up America community has made over 100,000 calls to Congress in support of the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the Freedom to Vote Act, the provisions of which are both included in this Important new legislation.

With the energy of our 2 million members behind us, our organization fully endorses